HOUSE . . . . . . No. 540

By Mr. Naughton of Clinton, petition of Harold P. Naughton, Jr. relative to providing for binding arbitration in public employee disputes. Public Service.

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR BINDING ARBITRATION IN PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISPUTES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

- 1 Chapter 150E of the General Laws is hereby amended by
- 2 striking paragraph 5 in section 9, and inserting the following:—
- 3 If the impasse continues after the publication of the fact-finding
- 4 report, either party, or the parties acting jointly, may petition the
- 5 board to initiate arbitration proceedings, the result of which shall
- 6 be a final and binding decision. Upon receipt of such petition, the
- 7 board shall appoint a panel of three arbitrators from a list of quali-
- 8 fied persons. In the alternative, the parties may agree upon the
- 9 arbitrators and then notify the board of such agreement and choice
- 10 of arbitrators. The panel shall transmit its finding and its final and
- 11 binding decision to the board and to both parties within thirty
- 12 days after the date of its appointment.